



DSA BULLETIN #05-03

Date: October 13, 2005

To: **DSA Regional Offices**
School Districts

From: **Division of the State Architect**
Department of General Services
State of California

SUBJECT: Filing Extension for Portable Buildings Retrofits

Purpose: This Bulletin is being issued to remind owners of portable buildings of the deadlines for retrofitting, removal, or obtaining time extensions to bring portable buildings into compliance with the Green Oaks Family Academy Elementary School Fire Protection Act of 2001 (referred to herein as the Green Oaks Act).

Background: The Green Oaks Act, Chapter 725, Statutes of 2001, (Senate Bill (SB) 575), which became effective on July 1, 2002, required all new public school K-12 campuses to have all buildings (including those added to the campus in the future) provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system and a fully automatic fire alarm system when submitted to DSA on or after the effective date.

Campuses established prior to the effective date would be required by the Green Oaks Act to provide only the fully automatic fire alarm system when the construction value of a modernization, addition or upgrade, etc., meets or exceeds \$200,000.00. See Education Code (EC) Sections 17074.50 – 17074.56.

Exemption: Portable buildings are allowed to be exempt from the above requirements for an initial period of three (3) years from the date of being sited on a campus if placed on a temporary foundation. At the end of three (3) years, the portable buildings are required to be retrofitted with the previously required systems, or an extension of an additional three (3) years could be requested. Portable buildings moved from site to site would begin their initial three (3) year exemption each time the building was moved to a different campus.

Portable buildings on permanent foundations are not exempted.

Extension: Districts can request an extension of the exemption for up to three years by submitting an *Appeal Request*, Form SAB 189, to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC). These requests will be forwarded to the SAB for consideration and approval. Requests for extensions from School Districts should be made prior to the expiration of the initial exemption period in order to provide adequate time for requests to be scheduled at the State Allocation Board (SAB) meeting.

Portable buildings placed on Public School campuses during July 2002 are due for removal or for retrofit of required systems in July 2005, unless an extension is granted by the SAB. Exempted portable buildings must be removed or retrofitted three (3) years from the date corresponding to the actual placement of the portable building on the site.

Portable buildings that are not granted the extension will be required to be removed from the campus, or to be retrofitted. Plans for retrofitting the portable buildings with fire sprinkler and fully automatic fire alarm systems should be submitted to DSA for review and approval prior to installation or start of construction.

Further Information:

Submitting a request for time extension - Please contact the appropriate Office for Public School Construction (OPSC) Project Manager.

Funding considerations - Refer to, "Are Your Portables in Compliance?" page 4 of OPSC publication 2005 Advisory Actions at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/OPSC/pdf-aa-mm-bg/AA-2005/AA-2005-03.pdf>.

The Green Oaks Family Academy Elementary School Fire Protection Act of 2001 – Can be viewed on the DSA web site at <http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/sb575.htm>